

Dear Montgomery County Council,

Please vote an emphatic NO on the resolution to introduce vaccine passports into Montgomery County. Especially since the Omicron variant is infecting people regardless of vaccination status, and is being spread just as readily by vaccinated people, there is no longer a need to distinguish between vaccinated and unvaccinated classes of citizens. Your goal appears to be to incentivize people to get vaccinated, but the actual effect will likely be for the unvaccinated to dig in their heels. If they were not convinced up to this point, a heavy-handed government response will only reduce citizen trust of the government. Instead, this group of people is likely to simply disregard the vaccine passport idea and visit these businesses anyway, adding to the burden of the folks at the door who are not trained to handle customers that disregard the rules. Alternatively, they will simply bring their business to other counties, reducing your revenue. In addition, the lack of ability to enforce this mandate will only further reduce the credibility of the Montgomery County government. Is this a wise hill to die on? Do you alienate your citizens with so little potential for an actual effect on the virus?

Joe Gresock  
Maryland resident